

U.S. Bureau of Reclamation
Emergency Condition Notification Form

Date: Tuesday, August 30, 2011

Time: 8:00 AM (MDT)

Facility Affected: Yellowtail Dam

River(s) Affected: Bighorn River

Organizations Receiving this Notification:

Current conditions at Yellowtail Dam do not require formal notifications. The status update below is for informational purposes only.

Condition Description

Current Conditions – Yellowtail Dam and Bighorn River:

- Reservoir Elevation: 3643.58 feet, a decrease of about 0.10 feet in the last 24 hours.
- Elevation of the top of the Joint-Use Pool (normal Full-pool level): 3640.0 feet
- Elevation of the top of Exclusive Flood Control Pool: 3657.0 feet
- Release to the Bighorn River: 4,160 cubic-feet per second (cfs)
- 24-hour average inflow: 3,300 cfs
- Exclusive Flood Control Storage Utilized: 18.4 percent of 258,331 acre-feet available

In order to control the rate of evacuation of the flood storage pool, as well as to stage down the Bighorn River flows in a controlled manner, releases are currently being maintained at about 4,160 cfs.

There are no dam safety related conditions or concerns with Yellowtail or Yellowtail Afterbay Dams. Inflows and releases from Yellowtail Dam have dropped below levels requiring an elevated response level and increased notifications to downstream authorities and affected agencies.

1. Potential River Levels and Times of Arrival

The following provides the approximate travel times and river stage changes from Yellowtail Dam at key locations along the Bighorn River:

<u>Bighorn River Location</u>	<u>Approximate Travel Time</u>	<u>Approximate River Stage Decrease per 500 cfs change</u>
Two Leggins Bridge	7-9 hours	0.20 feet
Hardin	10-12 hours	0.20 feet
Confluence with the Yellowstone River	24 hours	0.15 feet

2. Actions Taken by Reclamation

We are continuing to post updates to the operational conditions at Yellowtail Dam on the Bureau of Reclamation, Montana Area Office website at <http://www.usbr.gov/gp/mtao>

3. Actions Expected of Downstream Agencies

Please be advised that continued reductions in releases to the Bighorn River may be scheduled in order to continue controlling the rate of evacuation of the flood storage pool, as well as to stage down Bighorn River Flows in a controlled manner.

4. For Additional Information

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5. Media Inquiries:

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